

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 105089
ORIGIN SS-15

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DRAFTED BY: D/DBRIZILL

APPROVED BY: D-LYNN PASCOE

S/S- MR SEBASTIAN

-----091902Z 100055 /43

P 091657Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

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FOR DICK MOOSE FROM ACTING SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM GENEVA DTD 07 MAY 1977 QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 3494

FOR ACTING SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER FROM SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: WHO, PORG, IS, XF

SUBJ: U.S. VOTE ON WHO BUDGET

REF: STATE 104409

1. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CABLE OF MAY 7, 1977. I MUST DISAGREE
WITH YOUR CONCLUSIONS AND EXPRESS MY CONCERN ABOUT THE EFFECTS
OF THE PROPOSED ABSTENTION ON THE MORALE OF THE LEADERSHIP OF
WHO, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ORGANIZATION AND THE IMAGE OF THE
U.S. AND THAT OF OUR DELEGATION.

2. I HAVE HAD A VERY POSITIVE SERIES OF MEETINGS AT WHO

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AND HAVE BEEN ENORMOUSLY IMPRESSED WITH DRS. MAHLER AND
LAMBO AND WITH THE NEW DIRECTIONS THE ORGANIZATION IS TAKING.
THERE IS A NEW EXPRESSION OF FAITH IN THE UNITED STATES,
A NEW FEELING OF SUPPORT FOR THE POLICIES OF PRESIDENT CARTER
AMONG THE DELEGATES.

3. DR. MAHLER HAS ACHIEVED A SAVINGS OF 5 MILLION DOLLARS

BY ELIMINATING UNSUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS AND REDUCING HEADQUARTERS' STAFF. OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS HE WILL ELIMINATE 313 HEADQUARTER POSITIONS - 25 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL - AND 50 REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS. THIS IS SETTING AN EXAMPLE FOR ALL OTHER SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. IT IS AN EXAMPLE OF PUTTING AMERICAN POLICY INTO PRACTICE. IN LIGHT OF THIS BOTH DR. MAHLER AND WHO SHOULD BE SINGLED OUT FOR PRAISE AND SUPPORT. THE 5 MILLION DOLLAR SAVINGS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AREA WILL BE APPLIED TO THE PROGRAM AREA. EVERY MEMBER OF THE U.S. DELEGATION AND VIRTUALLY ALL OTHER DELEGATIONS BELIEVE THAT THE DIRECTOR GENERAL WILL USE THESE FUNDS WISELY. OUR POSITION, EXPRESSED EARLIER THIS WEEK, HAS BEEN INTERPRETED AS DEMONSTRATING LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN AND SUPPORT FOR THE ORGANIZATION.

4. A GOVERNMENT POLICY WHICH NEGLECTS THE SUBSTANTIVE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PARTICULAR AGENCIES BY LUMPING ALL SPECIAL AGENCIES TOGETHER IS INAPPROPRIATE. WHO IS IN A UNIQUE POSITION AND IS PUTTING MORE MONEY INTO THE FIELD, CUTTING BACK ON ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF OVERHEAD.

5. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE VOLUNTARY FUND ARE USEFUL, BUT ARE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE STRONG SUPPORT OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES WHOSE LEADERS ARE SUPPORTIVE OF THE GOALS OF U.S. POLICY.

6. AT THE VERY TIME THE U.S. IS MAKING A NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO IMMUNIZE ALL OUR CHILDREN IT IS INCONSISTENT NOT TO SUPPORT IN PART, THROUGH THE ASSESSED BUDGET, WHO'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOAL OF IMMUNIZING ALL THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD BY 1990.

7. IT IS CLEAR TO ME THAT AN ABSTENTION WILL UNDERCUT THE NEW CONFIDENCE IN THE U.S. AND WILL UNDERMINE THE EXPRESSIONS OF PROGRAM SUPPORT BY THE U.S. DELEGATION.

8. IN CONSCIENCE I MUST SEPARATE MYSELF FROM THIS POLICY DECISION. I URGE YOU TO REVERSE IT. I INTEND TO SPEAK OUT FOR THIS ORGANIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE AND ELSEWHERE. HEALTH IS NOT A POLITICAL OBJECT - IT IS A HUMANITARIAN ONE AND IS RELATED TO THE PRESIDENT'S DESIRE TO MEET BASIC NEEDS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. A FLEXIBLE FOREIGN POLICY REQUIRES A RECOGNITION OF INDIVIDUAL MERIT. WHO AND ITS LEADERSHIP DESERVE THAT SPECIAL RECOGNITION. SORENSON UNQTE CHRISTOPHER

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